AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows. Insertions are shown underlined while deletions are ~~struck through~~.

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended): The method according to Claim 10, wherein said nuclease is a nuclease contained in the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition.

3. (currently amended): The method according to Claim 10, wherein the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is obtained from yeast selected from the group consisting of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Candida utilis*.

4. (currently amended): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the decomposition step is conducted by digesting the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition with nuclease added to a solution containing the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition, at a pH value of 3 -10 and at a temperature of 10-70°C.

5. (currently amended): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the decomposition step is conducted by hydrolyzing at 20-100°C the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition with alkali added to a solution containing the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition at a normality of 0.1-5N.

6. (currently amended): The method according to Claim 10, wherein the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is an extract obtained by physically crushing yeast using a high-pressure homogenizer and an ultrasonic disintegrator.

7. (currently amended): The method according to Claim 10, wherein the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is an extract obtained from yeast using hot water at a pH value of 4-8 and at a temperature of 90-100°C, wherein sodium chloride is added to a yeast suspension with a yeast concentration of 5-25% to make a salt concentration of 1-10%.

8. (currently amended): The method according to Claim 10, wherein the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is an extract obtained by autolyzing yeast.

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended): A method of obtaining polyamines, comprising the steps of:

providing ~~yeast somatic components~~ a yeast RNA-containing composition ~~selected from the group consisting of extracts obtained from yeast by physical crushing, extracts obtained from yeast by autolysis, extracts obtained from yeast with hot water, and yeast RNA compositions~~;

subjecting said ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition to a decomposition step, comprising nuclease digestion or alkali hydrolysis, of increasing the yield of polyamines recovered in a subsequent recovery step by approximately 2-3.2 times the yield of polyamines recovered in the subsequent recovery step without this decomposition step, under conditions where the yield with this decomposition step when continuing for approximately 15-18 hours is approximately 2-3.2 times the yield without this decomposition step, wherein said ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is treated in solution with nuclease added in a concentration of approximately 1-2 mg/ml, at approximately 25-37°C, and at a pH of approximately 6-8, or said ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is dissolved in a 0.3 N alkali solution at 37°C; and

recovering polyamines from the decomposed ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition produced.

11. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 10, wherein the nuclease is selected from the group consisting of deoxyribonuclease I, nuclease P1, nuclease S1, phosphodiesterase I, ribonuclease A, ribonuclease B, ribonuclease T_1, ribonuclease T_2, and ribonuclease U_2.

12. (previously presented): The method according to Claim 10, wherein the alkali is sodium hydrate or potassium hydroxide.

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended): A method of obtaining polyamines, comprising the steps of:

providing ~~yeast somatic components~~ a yeast RNA-containing composition ~~selected from the group consisting of extracts obtained from yeast by physical crushing, extracts obtained from yeast by autolysis, extracts obtained from yeast with hot water, and yeast RNA compositions~~;

subjecting said ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition to a decomposition step, comprising nuclease digestion or alkali hydrolysis, of increasing the yield of polyamines recovered in a subsequent recovery step by approximately 2-3.2 times the yield of

polyamines recovered in the subsequent recovery step without this decomposition step, under conditions where said ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is treated in solution with nuclease added in a concentration of approximately 1-2 mg/ml, at approximately 25-37°C, and at a pH of approximately 6-8, or said ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is dissolved in a 0.3 N alkali solution at 37°C; and

recovering polyamines from the decomposed ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition produced.

15. (currently amended): A method of obtaining polyamines, comprising the steps of:

providing ~~yeast somatic components~~ a yeast RNA-containing composition ~~selected from the group consisting of extracts obtained from yeast by physical crushing, extracts obtained from yeast by autolysis, extracts obtained from yeast with hot water, and yeast RNA compositions~~;

decomposing said ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition by nuclease digestion or alkali hydrolysis to separate polyamines from high-molecular weight substances in the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition to a degree achieved when the ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition ~~are~~is treated for about 15-18 hours in solution with nuclease added in a concentration of about 1-2 mg/ml, at about 25-37°C, and at a pH of about 6-8, or in an about 0.3 N alkali solution at about 37°C; and

recovering polyamines from the decomposed ~~yeast somatic components~~ yeast RNA-containing composition produced.